

SENATE JUDICIARY  
EXHIBIT NO. 7  
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BILL NO. SB 374

Susan N Gliko  
Senate Judiciary Committee  
SB 374 – 8 am in room 303 – February 17, 2009

Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee,

For the record, my name is Susan Gliko and I am a post-abortive woman who suffered for years with nightmares, panic attacks, flashbacks, extreme grief, and shame after my abortion.

With your permission, I would like to hand out copies of this written testimony to the members of the committee.

I am speaking to you today on behalf of the Montana Catholic Conference, and as the coordinator for Rachel's Hope, a post-abortion healing ministry that offers both Project Rachel Referrals and Rachel's Vineyard Retreats – two of the hundreds of post-abortion healing ministries available to those suffering after abortion.

Today I am asking you to protect the daughters of Montana by voting yes on SB 374.

There is a growing weight of scientific studies and voices of women themselves telling the story of abortion as a life-changing, adverse experience for many. Experience is beginning to trump the rhetoric of choice.

I hear many stories and attest to the reality that in Montana, we have young girls seeking abortion with no parental involvement or knowledge. According to a "Teenage Pregnancy: Overall Trends and State-by-State Information" Report by the Alan Guttmacher Institute, Planned Parenthood's research arm – **40% of teen abortions take place with no parental involvement.**

In 2007, The State of Montana reported that there were 8 abortions performed on girls in the age range of 12-14 and 149 abortions performed on girls in the age range of 15-17. Statistics show that most underage girls are impregnated by adult men. This is statutory rape and it needs to be reported.

We cannot trust that abortion clinics will report statutory rape. In a series of hidden camera investigations, collected summer 2008, The Mona Lisa Project video captured Planned Parenthoods in several different states covering up the statutory rape of a 13-year-old girl - documenting the real behavior of the abortion industry across the nation.

We need to protect the daughters of Montana by allowing Parental Notification so young girls in crisis get loving support from their families. Most young girls choose abortion out of fear of disappointing their parents. Not fear for their lives.

Not all girls come from troubled abusive homes – many come from very loving supportive families. For example, the Zallie's beautiful daughter Stacy underwent a secret abortion. She never revealed her situation or her solution to her family – the people whose love she needed so

desperately. Shortly after the abortion, Stacy asked for psychiatric help, she ended therapy after only 3 months. Not long after, she took her own life.

Sadly, "numerous studies confirm that this case is not an isolated occurrence. A 2006 study from New Zealand under lead author Dr. David Fergusson found that young women had four times higher risk of having suicidal thoughts and attempts after abortion, compared to a group of young women who were never pregnant. The same group of post-abortive young women had three times higher risk of suicide compared to another group of young women who became pregnant but did not abort. The study controlled for more than a dozen different factors and was statistically significant, with only a 1-in-1,000 probability of the result being due to chance."

"Fergusson's study also revealed that the young women had a statistically significant risk of major depression after abortion, compared to those who were never pregnant and those who were pregnant but did not abort. (Major depression is a psychiatric disorder in which suicidal thoughts often occur.)" Big Girls Do Cry excerpt

"A study in the Journal of Psychiatric Research led by Dr. Priscilla Coleman in 2008, showed that abortion was associated with increased risk for 12 mental health problems, including panic attacks, panic disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder or PTSD, major depression, bipolar disorder and substance-abuse disorders. The associations were statistically significant and included statistical controls. In some previous studies, it has been speculated that mental health problems after abortion may have been due to other factors."

"But Coleman showed that abortion "made a significant independent contribution to more mental health outcomes than a history of rape, sexual abuse in childhood, physical assault in adulthood, physical abuse in childhood and neglect." Big Girls Do Cry excerpt

In conclusion, Parental Notification has the potential to save lives, spare young teens the heartache of having to live with the reality of abortion and in one study was shown to reduce the number of abortions to unemancipated minors by 34%. *Impact of NM Par. Notif. Law on Ab. And Birth*, J. Rogers et al., *Am. J. Pub. Health*, Mar. '91, vol. 81, no. 3, p. 294.

Mr Chair and members of the committee, I am asking you to vote yes on SB 374 – and support and protect our daughters in Montana – this is a very pro-woman thing to do.  
Thank You!

Susan Gliko  
Rachel's Hope of Catholic Social Services of Montana  
[www.rachelsvineyard.org](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org)  
[www.silentnomoreawareness.org](http://www.silentnomoreawareness.org)  
[www.hopeafterabortion.org](http://www.hopeafterabortion.org)  
PO Box 213  
Deer Lodge MT 59722  
406-442-0607

<http://liveactionfilms.org/>

The Mona Lisa Project videos document Planned Parenthood's willingness to repeatedly violate mandatory reporting laws for statutory rape that protect children.

<http://downloads.frc.org/EF/EF09A42.pdf>

Big Girls Do Cry – The Hidden Truth of Abortion

<http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/doi/full/10.1111/j.1469-7610.2005.01538.x>

**Abortion in young women and subsequent mental health**

*David M. Fergusson*

<http://www.stacyzallie.org/home.htm>



The Zallie's beautiful daughter underwent a secret abortion. She never revealed her situation or her solution to her family – the people whose love and emotional support she needed so desperately. Shortly after the abortion, Stacy asked for psychiatric help, she ended therapy after only 3 months. Not long after, she took her own life. The Zallies are convinced that had Stacy been better informed about what she might expect following the abortion – both physically and/or emotionally, and if she had been able to share her grief in a safe supportive environment, that she would be alive today.